

Strike Communications

6 messages

Brooke Rios <brios@newlosangeles.org>

Thu, Jan 10, 2019 at 6:57 AM

To: Kate O'Brien <kobrien@newlosangeles.org>, Gabrielle Brayton <gbrayton@newlosangeles.org>

Cc: Xochitl Lira <xlira@newlosangeles.org>

Hi Gabrielle and Kate,

Attached is the letter CCSA prepared in response to the UTLA letter. Please take a look and let me know what you think. I appreciate the clarifications presented in this letter.

CCSA has prepared a written statement to be handed to the media in the event that parents, teachers, staff and administration are approached. I would like to provide these to teachers as an additional support. This can be emailed to parents. I have attached this document below.


I do not want to cause unwarranted anxiety or burden for our teachers as the result of the strike. I would be happy to touch base briefly with both faculties after school today and contextualize these resources. I am especially thinking about MS, as the potential threat of protesters on that campus is new.


Let me know your thoughts and what you need.
BR

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Brooke Rios
Executive Director
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2 attachments

 **190108 Sample Statement for Charter Schools During LAUSD Strike.docx**
716K

 **190109 Charter Educator Update re UTLA Open Letter.pdf**
179K

Xochitl Lira <xlira@newlosangeles.org>

Thu, Jan 10, 2019 at 7:02 AM

To: Brooke Rios <brios@newlosangeles.org>

Cc: Kate O'Brien <kobrien@newlosangeles.org>, Gabrielle Brayton <gbrayton@newlosangeles.org>

Hi,

Silvana is working on translating the statements, I will share once it's ready.

Also, the first statement is missing "open" right after "will remain", please add it before sending it.

Thanks!

[Quoted text hidden]

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Xochitl Lira, Ed.D.
Director of Operations

**UTLA Strike: Template Responses to Media Inquiry or On-site Media Presence
Resources for School Leaders
2018-19**

Sample Statement in Event of Strike

<Insert School Logo>

Dear (Insert Name),

Thank you for stopping by (Insert School Name) today (Insert Date).

In the event of a strike by United Teachers Los Angeles (UTLA), our charter public school, which operates within the LAUSD boundaries, will remain to ensure student learning is not interrupted. For the benefit of hundreds of thousands of students across Los Angeles, we hope UTLA and the Los Angeles Unified School District are able to successfully reach a resolution on contract negotiations to ensure every student has access to a great public school.

If you would like more information, please contact Brittany Chord Parmley on the media relations team at the California Charter Schools Association at bparmley@ccsa.org. You can also find more information about LAUSD charter schools at www.xxx.org.

Sincerely,
(Insert Name)

Sample Statement During Strike

<Insert School Logo>

Dear (Insert Name),

Thank you for stopping by (Insert School Name) today (Insert Date).

During the strike, our independent charter school will continue to provide our students with the secure and high-quality learning environment they deserve and ensure that our students and teachers are able to attend school uninterrupted. For the benefit of children throughout the district, we hope for a quick and effective resolution to UTLA and the District's negotiations so that the hundreds of thousands of students in district schools can resume learning.

If you would like more information, please contact Brittany Chord Parmley on the media relations team at the California Charter Schools Association at bparmley@ccsa.org. You can also find more information about LAUSD charter schools at www.xxx.org.

Sincerely,
(Insert Name)

**Charter School Educator Update Regarding
“Open Letter Regarding [UTLA’s] Bargaining with LAUSD”
January 2019**

Dear Charter Educators and Staff:

The California Charter Schools Association (CCSA) has been closely monitoring the ongoing labor negotiation between the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) and United Teachers of Los Angeles (UTLA) – the labor union representing LAUSD teachers – to understand how these negotiations will impact charter school students, families, staff, and schools. This week, you may have received a communication from UTLA entitled “An Open Letter Regarding Our Bargaining with LAUSD.” To be clear, all independent charter schools in Los Angeles operate as nonprofit organizations and are separate from, but closely overseen by the Los Angeles Unified School District, and are not part of the current collective bargaining negotiations.

UTLA is using these negotiations as an opportunity to discuss education policy issues including charter public schools. The “open letter” you may have received should therefore be viewed as a purposefully-timed effort to influence public opinion surrounding UTLA’s planned strike on or about January 10, 2019. Please read below for more context.

Q: Does UTLA support charter schools?

UTLA has a long and well-documented history of advocating against charter public schools, despite representing some charter educators. They have endorsed and worked to elect L.A. Unified school board members who consistently vote to close high-performing charter schools in Los Angeles. They have supported local and statewide policies that would decrease funding for charter schools, take away charter students and educators’ rights to equitable funding and facilities, and have used their resources to promote advertisements and other communications that misinform the public about charter schools. For example, last month UTLA publicly called for a moratorium on all Los Angeles public charters schools, and UTLA’s current bargaining proposals would make it harder for charter students to have equitable access to suitable learning spaces.

Q: Will charter schools be affected by UTLA’s bargaining or the strike?

L.A. Unified, School Board Members, and UTLA have all acknowledged that collective bargaining on charter issues is illegal; if UTLA seeks changes to charter policy, they cannot legally secure those changes through their collective bargaining agreement. All charter schools in Los Angeles will remain open during a strike; however, we do anticipate the UTLA will coordinate demonstrations and rallies voicing their opinions on charter schools during a strike. The charter community is working with appropriate officials to prepare for these demonstrations, so they have a limited impact on school sites and student learning.

Q: Why would UTLA contact me?

UTLA is in contract negotiations with their employer, the Los Angeles Unified School District, and are working hard to negotiate employment terms with the District by building broad public support. This broad public support includes fellow voters, community members, and educators working in Los Angeles like you. Additionally, since much of UTLA’s public position during bargaining has included advocacy against charter schools, it is important for UTLA to attempt to clarify their positions to those who may be affected by them.

Q: How do I learn more about charter schools and correct misinformation being spread about them?

See [this Charter FAQs](#) document to start! As a dedicated educator supporting kids in Los Angeles public schools, you are one of the best ambassadors to share more about why our work matters for students and families.

Q: How can I support increased funding for all public schools to help every student and teacher in Los Angeles?

California per-pupil spending on education is a critical issue impacting public education in our state. California schools receive half as much money per student as New York, and are ranked 42 in the nation in per-pupil funding. This impacts all of us: traditional public schools and charter public schools alike. Parents, teachers, and community members can call on state legislators and the governor to increase investments in our schools: ask our elected to invest in our most vulnerable students.

Q: What will Los Angeles charter schools do if UTLA strikes?

- **We are and will be open to serve all students:** If a strike occurs at District schools, we will remain open so all students who attend our schools will continue to learn.
- **We are committed to protecting student learning and safety:** We will work with the District to continue to provide students with the secure and high-quality learning environment they deserve and ensure that our students and teachers can attend school uninterrupted.
- **We hope for a quick resolution to these issues:** For the benefit of children throughout the District, we hope for a quick and effective resolution to UTLA and the District's negotiations so that the hundreds of thousands of students in district schools can resume learning.

Additional Information Regarding a January 10 Strike

Q: What happens to our school if a strike occurs?

If UTLA chooses to go on strike, charter schools will remain open. We will continue to operate as a safe learning environment providing students with the high-quality education they deserve. We are actively working with the California Charter Schools Association and District to minimize disruption on our campus.

Q: Do these negotiations impact our charter school?

They do not impact our ability to serve students and families. UTLA's District school contract and the District's budget is separate from our independent charter school. Our school has its own budget and policies that are defined by our own board and school community.

Q: For Co-Located Charters: Can the strike impact our access to our school facility?

UTLA's leadership publicly opposes co-location and the sharing of facilities and resources with charter school students. However, UTLA's demands cannot impact our access to public school facilities, which is protected by law.

Q: Will our schools close if the union strikes?

No. Our schools will remain open if a strike occurs and we will continue to create a secure, positive, learning environment. There may, however, be picketing or disruptions outside our campus. If you or your students feel threatened or unsafe by any activity, please report to us immediately. Our first priority is and will always be the safety of our students and staff.

Q: Are we still accepting enrollments?

Yes, all charter schools are legally required to accept students who enroll up to the cap stated in our charter petition. We are committed to providing students with the opportunity to learn in a safe and uninterrupted environment. We will continue operating normally including the acceptance and admittance of new students.

Q: What should we tell our students about a possible strike?

Ensure that your students know that our schools will remain open and all staff will be at schools during a strike. Students may notice some differences in the coming weeks, like protestors outside a school. These are related to adult issues, and do not affect our commitment to protecting students' right to learn in a safe and uninterrupted environment. Our school will be communicating our intent to stay open and serve students to all families.

Q: How should I handle media requests or reporters outside our school?

Please contact your school administrator if you are approached by the media so we can ensure you have adequate support and can focus on students and families.

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Gabrielle Brayton <gbrayton@newlosangeles.org>

Thu, Jan 10, 2019 at 7:07 AM

To: Brooke Rios <brios@newlosangeles.org>

Cc: Kate O'Brien <kobrien@newlosangeles.org>, Xochitl Lira <xlira@newlosangeles.org>

Thanks Brooke. The open letter for Charter Schools is helpful. Should I send that to teachers this AM?

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." -Nelson Mandela

Gabrielle Brayton
Interim Principal
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On Thu, Jan 10, 2019 at 6:58 AM Brooke Rios <brios@newlosangeles.org> wrote:

[Quoted text hidden]

Brooke Rios <brios@newlosangeles.org>

Thu, Jan 10, 2019 at 7:26 AM

To: Gabrielle Brayton <gbrayton@newlosangeles.org>

Cc: Kate O'Brien <kobrien@newlosangeles.org>, Xochitl Lira <xlira@newlosangeles.org>

Hi Gabrielle,

I would like to place hard copies in boxes with the media statement contextualized by an email.

Kate, with considerations of your teachers, let me know what your initial thoughts are.

[Quoted text hidden]

Xochitl Lira <xlira@newlosangeles.org>

Thu, Jan 10, 2019 at 7:31 AM

To: Brooke Rios <brios@newlosangeles.org>

Cc: Gabrielle Brayton <gbrayton@newlosangeles.org>, Kate O'Brien <kobrien@newlosangeles.org>

Attached is the translated statement

[Quoted text hidden]

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Translated copy of 190108 Sample Statement for Charter Schools During LAUSD Strike.docx
36K

Gabrielle Brayton <gbrayton@newlosangeles.org>

Thu, Jan 10, 2019 at 7:40 AM

To: Brooke Rios <brios@newlosangeles.org>

Got it!! Thank you!
[Quoted text hidden]

**UTLA Strike: Respuestas de la plantilla a la consulta de medios o Presencia en los medios de
comunicación en el sitio
para líderes escolares
2018-19**

Ejemplo de declaración en caso de huelga

<Inserte el logotipo de la escuela>

Estimado (ingrese el nombre):

Gracias por visitar (insertar el nombre de la escuela) hoy (Insertar la fecha).

En el caso de una huelga de los Unión de Maestros de Los Ángeles (UTLA), nuestra escuela autónoma pública, que opera dentro de los límites del Distrito escolar de Los Angeles (LAUSD), permanecerá abierta para asegurar que el aprendizaje de los estudiante no sea interrumpido. Para el beneficio de cientos de miles de estudiantes en Los Ángeles, esperamos que UTLA y el Distrito Escolar Unificado de Los Ángeles puedan con éxito alcanzar una resolución sobre las negociaciones de contratos para asegurar que cada estudiante tenga acceso a una excelente escuela pública.

Si desea obtener más información, comuníquese con Brittany Chord Parmley en el equipo de relaciones públicas de la Asociación de Escuelas Chárter de California en bparmley@ccsa.org. También puede encontrar más información sobre las escuelas autónomas del LAUSD en www.xxx.org.

Sinceramente,
(Insertar Nombre)

Ejemplo de declaración durante la huelga

<Inserte el logotipo de la escuela>

Estimado (ingrese el nombre):

Gracias por visitar (inserte el nombre de la escuela) hoy (inserte la fecha).

Durante la huelga, nuestra escuela autónoma independiente continuará brindando a nuestros estudiantes el entorno de aprendizaje seguro y de alta calidad que merecen y garantizará que nuestros estudiantes y maestros puedan asistir a la escuela sin interrupciones. Para el beneficio de los niños en todo el distrito, esperamos una resolución rápida y efectiva de Unión de Maestros de Los Ángeles(UTLA) y las negociaciones del Distrito para que los cientos de miles de estudiantes en las escuelas del distrito puedan reanudar el aprendizaje.

Si desea obtener más información, comuníquese con Brittany Chord Parmley en el equipo de relaciones públicas de la Asociación de Escuelas Chárter de California en bparmley@ccsa.org. También puede encontrar más información sobre las escuelas autónomas del LAUSD en www.xxx.org.

Sinceramente,



(Insertar Nombre)